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NECESSITY OF ENDING THE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST CUBA

Letter dated 20 March 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a press release issued by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on 19 March 1996 in connection with the so-called Helms-Burton Act against Cuba.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 27 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Julio LONDOÑO PAREDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/51/50.

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ANNEX

Statement dated 19 March 1996 issued by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

The Movement of Non-Aligned Countries has traditionally expressed its rejection of unilateral coercive measures as a means of exerting pressure on non-aligned and other developing countries, and is now particularly concerned by the latest expression of such a practice, the enactment by the President of the United States of the so-called Helms/Burton Bill against Cuba.

The Movement expresses its conviction that the aforementioned legislation, in addition to being contrary to international law and to the norms and principles governing peaceful and friendly relations among nations, goes against the inalienable sovereignty of all States by extraterritorially attempting to impose the United States law on the international community.

Non-aligned countries stand firm by their rejection of actions of this nature against Cuba, a member of the Movement, as reiterated by the Heads of States or Government at the eleventh Summit, held at Cartagena, Colombia.

The Movement also recalls four successive resolutions by the United Nations General Assembly, the latest being resolution 50/10, through which the international community rejected, by an increasing majority, measures of this nature against Cuba.

The Movement reaffirms its solidarity with the Republic of Cuba and requests the international community to adopt all necessary actions in order to prevent the harmful effects of this legislation both on the Cuban people and on the sovereign rights and legislation of members of the United Nations.